GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2512
ANSWERED ON:05.12.2001
INDIAN COUNCIL OF MEDICAL RESEARCH PROJECT
SUBODH ROY

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether a project conceived by Indian Council of Medical Research on execution of Microbial Containment Complex protecting the workers from laboratory infections has not been completed even after 24 years and after spending about 13 crore;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) the steps being taken to get it expedited; and

(d) the time by which it is likely to start functioning?

Answer

MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR. C.P. THAKUR)

(a) to (d): There has been tremendous technological advances in setting up bio-safety laboratories, since the original plan of Microbial Containment Complex (MCC) was conceptualized in 1977.Bio-safety level 1 and 2 safeguards are already available in National Institute of Virology, Pune to protect the workers from Laboratory infections. It is now proposed to set up a state of art BSL-3 Laboratory in the Microbial Containment Complex (MCC) of NIV, Pune for handling viruses belonging to P 3 and P 4 categories and the Laboratory is likely to be ready approximately in 18 months.